## Soros/Malloch-Brown Factor in Afghanistan

by Ramtanu Maitra

The Obama Administration must realize that while the Afghan drug lords and their minions, using AK-47s and other weapons, will challenge the opium eradicators on the ground, their battle will be joined at the corporate and diplomatic level by two wellknown, and much despised public figures: George Soros and Lord Mark Malloch-Brown. Soros, who has a hook over the world's narcotics cartels, benefits immensely from the explosion of drugs; Malloch-Brown, adequately trained by Her Majesty's Service, serves the interest of the offshore banks and the City of London by helping to procure the much-needed liquidity to keep the imperial wheels greased.

Their common interests have brought the two men close to each other. Malloch-Brown is not merely a collaborator of Soros and his New York house guest, who helped to finance Soros's anti-nation-state war chest with United Nations money; he is a business partner, as well. In April 2007, Malloch-Brown was appointed vice-chairman of Soros's hedge-fund, the Quantum Fund, whence Soros's billions come. The Financial Times of London reported that "Sir Mark will also serve as vice-chairman of the billionaire philanthropist's Open Society Institute (OSI), which promotes democracy and human rights, particularly in eastern Europe and the former Soviet Union." The Financial Times added in a May 1, 2007 article: "In a letter to shareholders in his Quantum hedge funds, Mr. Soros said Sir Mark would provide advice on a variety of issues to him and his two sons, who now run the company on a day-to-day basis. With his extensive international contacts, Malloch-Brown will help create opportunities for [Soros Fund Management] and the fund around the world."

Now, Lord Malloch-Brown is Minister of State in the Foreign and Commonwealth Office.

In Afghanistan, Soros promotes, while the Afghan drug lords implement—with the help of the militia, illegal cash, and gun power. At the same time, the Soros-



UNDP/Ariel Gurierrez

George Soros (left) and Britain's Lord Mark Malloch-Brown are joined at the hip, so to speak, in their mutual interest in maintaining the global dope trade and the billions in cash it produces.

funded Senlis Council, having enlisted a number of drug-loving bureaucrats, holds seminars on the "impossibility" of eradication of Afghan opium.

Behind these shenanigans, the prime objective of the Senlis Council, and its benefactor Soros, is to legalize opium production.

In 2005, a visiting scholar of the Carnegie Endowment for Peace, Frederic Grare, in his article, "Anatomy of a Fallacy: Senlis Council and Narcotics in Afghanistan," wrote: "In the present situation, the Senlis proposals would, on the contrary, speed up the transformation of Afghanistan into a narco-economy...."

Soros's pose as a "philanthropist" allows him to use his money to make money through drugs. Soros uses his OSI, Human Rights Watch, and other NGOs to this end.

But that is only one side of Soros's face. While promoting needle-exchange and "harm-reduction" programs, Soros keeps plugging for continuation of drug production in Central Asia. However, once in a while, somebody sees through his game plan. For instance, in 2004, Soros's OSI, chanting its "I Love Democracy," mantra, moved in to dislodge Uzbek President Islam Karimov. Soros's objective was to put in place a "democratic liberal government" which would allow, among other things, huge opium production in the fertile Ferghana Valley to "ease the cash flow" for both Soros and the country he was planning to control. In 2008, he tried the same game in Georgia, using his henchman, President Mikheil Saakashvilli. That effort was thwarted by the angry Russians.

In 2004, Karimov was under security threat from two jihadi groups. One was the Islamic Movement of Uzbekistan (IMU), funded and armed by the Saudi-British nexus and protected by the Pakistani ISI in the unchartered tribal areas of Pakistan. The other group was the Hizb-ut-Tahrir (HT), banned in all Central Asian Republics and headquartered in South Kensington, England, and which was extremely active in the Ferghana Valley, calling for unification of Muslims worldwide under a single caliphate, proclaiming that Western democracy was unacceptable to Muslims. It is evident that the HT was under British MI5 control.

Karimov, who had taken in a large number of IMU and HT members, soon discovered the link between the "I Love Democracy" crowd, caliphate-seekers, and assault rifle-wielding hard-core terrorists.

Karimov shut down the Open Society Foundation.